## REMARKS

At the outset, applicants thank Examiner Kuhns and SPE Cano for their time and consideration of the present application at the interview with the undersigned on January 24, 2006.

As noted in the Interview Summary, the Examiner indicated that she was inclined to maintain the rejection and believed that the combination of publications were properly linked through the teachings of VOLPENHEIN.

By way of the present amendment, claims 35-37, 39-54 and 56-70 are pending in the present application. Independent claims 35 has been amended to incorporate the recitations of claim 38. Claim 52 gas been amended to incorporate the recitations of claim 55. Claims 38 and 55 previously recited the polyol containing a branched chain corresponds to the general formula:

in which  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ , which may be identical or different, are selected from a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  hydroxyalkyl group; or  $R_4$  represents a group

m and n, which are identical or different, being an integer from 1 to 6,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  being as defined above, provided that at least two from  $R_1$  to  $R_4$  are a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  hydroxyalkyl group. As independent claims 35 and 52 have been amended to further characterize the recite polyol, applicants submit that the present application has been amended to place the application in condition for appeal.

Furthermore, as claims 38 and 55 have already been examined and considered, applicants do not believe that any new issues have been raised that would require a further search and consideration of the present application. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the present amendment be entered and fully considered.

Appln. No. 10/031,489 Docket No. 0512-1001

The Commissioner hereby is authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Philip A. DuBois, Reg. No. 50,696

745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Arlington, VA 22202 Telephone (703) 521-2297 Telefax (703) 685-0573

PD/mjr